

DESERET EVENING NEWS

Organ of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

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THE DESERET NEWS,

Salt Lake City, Utah.

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SALT LAKE CITY, - MARCH 23, 1904.

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE.

The Seventy-Fourth Annual Conference of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will be held in the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, on Sunday, April 3, Monday, April 4, and Tuesday, April 5, commencing each day at 10 a. m. A general attendance of the officers and members is requested and expected.

As the General Conference will commence on April 3, the first Sunday in the month, which is the regular Fast Day, the Saints in the Salt Lake and adjacent stakes of Zion will observe the monthly fast on Sunday, March 27, 1904. The stake and ward authorities in distant places will use their own judgment as to making the change for this occasion.

A general Priesthood meeting will be held in the Tabernacle on Monday evening, April 4, at 7 o'clock.

A special Priesthood meeting will be held in the Assembly Hall, Tuesday, April 5, at 10 o'clock a. m.

A religion class convention will be held in the Barratt hall on Tuesday, April 5, at 2 o'clock p. m.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,

JOHN R. WINDER,

ANTHONY H. LUND,

First Presidency.

The general conference of the Deseret Sunday School Union will be held at the Tabernacle, Salt Lake City, Sunday evening, April 3, at 7 o'clock, and the attendance of all officers and teachers is desired. A general invitation is extended to all Sunday school workers and Saints to be present.

JOSEPH F. SMITH,

GEORGE REYNOLDS,

JOS. M. TANNER,

General Superintendency.

A ZIMMER-AND-TRIBUNE TALE

Many readers of the "News," and particularly our German friends, will remember the expose given in our columns of the gross falsehoods concocted by a professed preacher of the Gospel named Zimmer, who sent to Germany a mass of absurdities and stupid untruths about the "Mormons," which were reprinted here and thoroughly refuted. It seems that the half-demented or spitefully mendacious fellow is not abashed by the set-back given him by his countrymen, but is at his former tricks again.

The Salt Lake Tribune, too, has given him aid by publishing that which everybody on its staff who has common understanding must know is the very extreme of nonsensical improbability. However, it throws dirt upon "Mormons," and that was enough to secure its insertion, in a prominent place with big headlines, and with comments from that paper that are totally unjustified, even by the stupid story to which it has given its sanction.

We publish it today with the statement of Mrs. Komp, "the woman in the case," who has evidently been induced by this G. A. Zimmer to respond to his influence and assent to matters which she now denies. He has promised to have her sent back to Germany, and if he keeps his word, which does not appear to be worth anything tangible, it will be the first good work that we have heard of his performing.

The statements about men wanting to marry her are emphatically denied by her and the persons whose names have been used, and there is no truth in these assertions except that, while she was a single woman a man who had no wife offered to marry her. The Tribune surmises that the primary cause of the woman's troubles "seems to be her personal attractions." We ask our contemporary to send some one to take a glance at the poor cripple; that all.

Now, just examine this little story in the Tribune, which is evidently not of the woman's telling, however silly she may be. She is represented as stating that Mrs. Schultz was urging her to marry a married man, and,

"One day in his presence she told me I was perfectly free to marry, because when I was baptized I was separated from my husband. Is not that so, Brother Huftner, that the baptismal water divorces? Yes, certainly," he replied, baptismal water acts as a divorce. You are free to marry me any time."

The utter absurdity of this will strike every person acquainted with "Mormon" doctrine and even many who do not understand it. The notion that "baptism acts as a divorce" could not have originated in anything like a brain but Zimmer's. But when the fact is known that this woman who is made to tell that ridiculous story was never married until about three years after

she was baptized, little more need be said.

This mendacious preacher, and the paper that aids him in his villainy, will not succeed in bolstering up their attempts to show that polygamous marriages are still performed, by such transparent tales as that to which we refer. They may escape the consequences of their infamous libels by putting them into the mouth of the poor creature who is made their scapegoat, but it is such dirty business that they deserve to welter under it while they live. If the whole truth is wanted as to this affair we are ready to furnish a full bill of particulars.

THAT TEMPLE STORY.

The Tribune discourses editorially today on a story which it printed on Tuesday, and on which it rightly casts the shadow of a great doubt. It states that "an usher who pilots visitors through the Tabernacle" told its Man about Town that when "the doors of the Temple were thrown open to any non-Mormon who might desire to enter," "many disgraceful acts of vandalism occurred," and because some of the crowd were "so unruly that a second such invitation was never issued." The Tribune admits that it had not heard of such conduct before and makes some corrections of the tale, but places the responsibility for it, not upon the veracious(?) reporter, who is apparently new to the work in this region, but upon "one of the ushers of the Tabernacle" who is said to have told the story.

Here is where our contemporary is at fault. It has been customary for men in its employ to be sent out to "get a story." If they cannot find something new and true, they have to draw upon their imagination, or get the help of some street corner or saloon loiterer, or both, and so all kinds of drift find a place in newspaper columns. Reliability does not seem to be required. Plausibility is enough and even that is often non-essential. That is the root of the trouble.

Now, we have taken pains to institute close inquiry as to this particular story, and we brand it as a falsehood made up by the "man from Missouri," and of a similar character to other yarns which he weaves daily for that paper. Every person connected with the building repudiates the tale, and denies that any such charge against our non-"Mormon" friends who viewed the interior of the Temple, has ever been made by either of them. If the reporter will furnish the name of his alleged informant, we will see that the matter is brought to a square issue.

Previous to the dedication of the Temple, a number of non-"Mormons" were invited to go through the building and see its architecture and furnishings. All the respectable residents were not included in the list, because they were not all known to the Church authorities, and the crowd would have been too great. But a large number of prominent people accepted the invitation with pleasure, and we never heard a word about misconduct of any of the visitors till the Tribune printed the story, made up by a person who evidently does not understand local affairs. He gives it out that "any Mormon in good fellowship may enter the Temple." Even that is untrue, as a special "recommend" is required from recognized authorities in every such case.

If a little care was exercised in examining such "copy" before giving it place, we think the result would be much more satisfactory both to readers and publishers. Mistakes will happen, no matter how much care is taken, but there is no need to put into print the rubbish that frequently appears, and which is often very detrimental to this community. Why not quit such miserable business?

A PLEASING RESULT.

The confirmation by the Senate of the appointment of General Wood and that of Assayer Woolley is a triumph for President Roosevelt and his supporters in the government. Enemies of those gentlemen and of the President did their utmost to throw down the appointments, blacken the character of the appointees and reflect odium on the appointer. But their efforts were vain. The gentlemen themselves have been fully vindicated, the charges against them have fallen into the mud from which they came, and the choice made has been shown to be worthy and wise. We congratulate them both on the outcome of the war against them. They are not associated either personally or officially, but we mention them together because of the war that was waged upon them both and the similarity of the result. One feature of the fight against H. Smith Woolley was on the ground that he was a "Mormon" Bishop. It is gratifying to know that this was of no force or effect. "Mormon" eaters, take notice!

AGITATION FOR GOOD.

Some of our contemporaries take exception to the view expressed by "Mormons," concerning the agitation against Senator Smoot, to the effect that the so-called investigation will but serve to make "Mormonism" better known among the general public, and secure for it many friends, who, but for this agitation, would not have given the subject a serious thought. The idea is treated as absurd by some profound editors. And yet, what is there unreasonable in that view?

Ever since Augustine, it has been recognized that the "blood of the martyrs has been the seed of the church," and although in this case, the question is not of the shedding of blood, it is as clear a case of persecution as any instituted under the regime of Roman emperors. For it is perfectly well understood that the agitation is not inspired by zeal for public morals, but by a desire to exclude from the halls of Congress, and then perhaps from other public places and offices, anyone connected with the "Mormon" Church. That fact, when made so plain by the opponents of the Church, as is done at present, secures for its doctrines many investigators.

The press of the country also seems

to recognize the increasing public demand for information on the subject, and from all parts of the country come reports to the effect that the live newspapers eagerly print articles on "Mormonism," even from a friendly point of view. Among the papers that have reached us with such articles is the Boston Journal for Sunday, March 13. This paper gives almost an entire page to the subject, illustrated by portraits of Elders J. H. Snyder, R. V. Bean, W. S. Turner, C. S. Martin, W. J. Lewis, E. F. Parry, and C. S. Martin's family, consisting, besides himself, of one wife and six fine looking children.

The reading matter accompanying the illustrations is made up chiefly of quotations from an interview with Elders C. S. Martin, W. J. Lewis, and E. F. Parry. They do not "defend" polygamy, as stated in the headlines, but they give some of the points on which plural marriage was explained, before the practice was declared unlawful by the courts and abandoned by the Church.

But no matter. The point is that the so-called investigation is assisting the Elders in bringing them and their testimony before the public. And this will result in the acceptance of it by many honest men and women. For the truth will appeal to all such, as soon as they give heed to it. "Mormonism" has no mysteries to conceal, no aim but the salvation of mankind. It has no temporal ambition but the one of all true Christians, to prepare the world for the reign of Jesus Christ. Is that treason to any government on earth? It asks for investigation, for the closest study. It stands before the world today, as did the primitive church before wondering Rome. That church was misunderstood by philosophers, ridiculed by politicians, hated by greedy priests, and persecuted, at times, by those who, though having power, were too weak to withstand public clamor; but for all that, it came with offers of salvation from the thousand evils of which society suffered as from running sores.

So does "Mormonism" today. It stands for purity, honesty in public and private business, truth, and submission to the will of God. For this reason, it courts investigation, even under the fire of persecution, and can but welcome any course of events that places it prominently before the world.

SHOULD CAUSE INVESTIGATION

James H. Tillman, ex-Lieutenant-Governor of South Carolina, is said to have an ambition to become a member of Congress. Mr. Tillman some time ago had the misfortune of killing a political rival, an editor of a newspaper. Tillman, according to reports, had previously threatened to take revenge upon Gonzales for his editorial onslaughts, and the shooting appeared to be cold-blooded murder, but the jury that tried the case acquitted Tillman, though public opinion, as voiced by the press, condemned him. Congressman Croft, whose seat in Congress now is vacant, defended Tillman. The latter desires the place of his defender. Considerable curiosity now exists to see, first whether the voters of one of our sovereign states consider that candidate worthy of political promotion; and, secondly, if Congress, in the case of his election, will receive him, without an investigation of his record, and that of his associates. Consistency would demand, if he is elected, an agitation from one end of the country to the other, for his unseating.

INDIAN CHILDREN.

The question whether it is possible to take Indian girls and boys from their wild prairie life, and make them useful for civilized life has been answered, says Leslie's Weekly, by the Lincoln Institute, Philadelphia, where Indian children are being trained. There are girls from the Winnebago, Mohawk, Chippewa, Oneida, Seneca, Onondaga, Menominee, Tuscarora, Cheyenne, and Sioux nations. They are instructed and trained in cooking, sewing, washing and ironing, and the general work of a domestic. Most of the girls arrive at the institution with objectionable traits. These, however, speedily yield to kind but firm treatment, and once the girls become interested in their duties they are said to be tractable and easily taught.

This is reasonable, if, as is undoubtedly the case, the Indians have degenerated from a status of higher civilization to their present conditions. This being the case, the children should be capable of attaining to at least the level from which the descent was made. If, on the other hand, it were true that man is but an evolution from a lower grade of creatures, it would be as impossible to train the children of savages to become proficient in civilized arts and usages, as it is, by instruction, to make an astronomer, or even a mason, of a young monkey. Evolution means a gradual unfolding. It does not admit of bounds and leaps from one level to another. If the distance between the lowest savage and the highest type of civilized man were, as is claimed, about as great as between the monkey and the savage, it should be possible to bridge the chasm between these two, by education, as it has proved possible to bring, by that means, the savage child up to the very height of culture. The fact that the chasm between the brute creation and man cannot in this way be bridged, proves that savagery is the result of degeneration from an original higher state.

Padarewski has been banished from Russia. Played out, as it were.

A supreme court divided against itself, unlike a house, can stand.

Mr. Bristow's forte is writing reports and not giving evidence in committee room.

It might profit Buffalo Bill to read that once very popular ballad, "Betsy and I Are Out."

In Colorado Governor Peabody pro-

claims martial law instead of liberty throughout the land.

A plague of "pugs" is said to be heading for this city. If this is so they should be headed off.

German soldiers must all learn to swim. This may obviate the necessity for wading through seas of blood.

It takes a man a long while to learn that an open mouth is the door that most frequently leads to destruction.

General Kuropatkin will have plenty of time to reach Port Arthur before it falls. Up to date it hasn't begun to totter.

The Old Time Telegraphers' association is to be strengthened. This is good news, for it has been rather a "ticky" organization for a long time.

Com Paul has been left a small fortune. This will scarcely compensate him for the big misfortune that was left him as the result of the Boer war.

Running mates for Mr. Roosevelt are being trotted out for inspection. There are so many that some may think it is to be a relay and not a presidential race.

Fred D. Love of Portland, Or., is suing Sallie McGuire, who jilted him, for a house and lot that he deeded her in courtship's happy days. It is clearly a case of Love's labor lost.

The Democratic mayor of Kansas City who welcomed the delegates to the Missouri Republican state convention to that city was putting in practise the precept, "Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good unto them that hate you."

Newspaper row in Tokio, Japan, is a lively place just now. Tokio has twenty dailies; one of them, the Japanese Times, is printed in English, but its entire staff is Japanese. There are in all one thousand five hundred newspapers and periodicals printed in Japan. The first was issued in 1853.

A FEW MORE CLIPPINGS.

The Lowell Citizen.

Great as is the scandal of "Mormonism," it is not greater than that caused by the conflict of marriage and divorce laws among the states. It is only more openly offensive.—Chicago Inter-Ocean.

There is a good deal of truth in that. There is more need of a uniform law regulating divorces and their effects in all the states than there is of a "pure food" laws for the same territory, especially as the state food laws are already in substantial accord.

Boston Transcript.

If the Mr. Tillman who slew Editor Gonzales and who has announced his candidacy for Congress is elected, then there should be a contest against seating him compared with which the Reed Smoot case is but a love feast.

Minneapolis Tribune.

It cannot be pretended that the conditions created directly by the "Mormon" Church in Utah are greatly worse than those created indirectly by the courts of Newport and Sioux Falls.

In one respect the eastern fashion is more demoralizing than the western. There is general testimony of the chaste fidelity of "Mormon" wives to their fractional husbands. In the east, the holy state of matrimony is corrupted and defaced on both sides. It is easier for a wise son to know his own father in Salt Lake than in New York high society. After all the supreme social object of marriage law is to make this knowledge certain.

San Francisco Star.

The law against polygamy in the United States does not proscribe believers in the "Mormon" religion, and could not without violation of the constitution which guarantees religious liberty to all. Yet, when Joseph Smith, the head of the Church, was testifying, in the case of Senator Smoot, accused of polygamy, he was asked questions which had no bearing whatever upon the point at issue—whether or not Smoot was leading or had led a polygamous life—but dealt only with his religious belief.

Smith was asked, for instance, if he believed in the principle of revelation from God to man. He answered that he did. But whose business is it whether he does or not? That is a matter with which the government has no legal or moral right to interfere. He might as well have been asked if he believed in the confessional. Whether he does or not, is no concern of the state.

Congress has no right whatever to question a man as to his personal religious or political beliefs or convictions. The most sacred of all rights is the thought of man, and free speech. Without these rights, there can be no liberty—"Liberty is dead."

If it be proven that Senator Smoot is a polygamist, he should be unseated. For he is then a violator of the law, and should not be permitted to be a lawmaker. If, however, it be proven that he is a "Mormon," he has the same right to membership in Congress as a Catholic, a Protestant, a Jew, or an infidel.

Hartford Courant.

Smith's offenses against Utah's state laws are Utah's affair. The senate's committee on privileges and elections had no more right (we don't say no more power) to question him about them than Rev. Wilbur F. Crafts had. Two-thirds of the senators have the undoubted power to expel Reed Smoot for wearing a mustache if they see fit, or for being a manufacturer of woodens, or for living in Provo City. Power and right are not always equivalent.—Hartford Courant.

RECENT PUBLICATIONS.

In Will Carleton's Magazine Every-

where for March, several features of much interest are found. Among these are "Rhythms from the Classics—Alexander and Hephaestus," an article on "Carle Nation and Her Beliefs," and "Back to Jerusalem," with a photograph of the Holy City. Mrs. Sangster has her usual quota of verses. Other prominent features are: "A study of the Carlelies," "The Great Sand-Waste," (Sabra)—1079 Bedford avenue, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Pearson's Magazine for April contains the first of the Tom Nast memoirs, by Mr. Albert Bigelow Paine, that have been previously announced. It is also, another of Dr. Cyrus Townsend Brady's stories of Indian Fights and Fighters, "The Thirty-two Against the Three Thousand," an interesting article on "The Patriotism of Japan," by Alexander Hume Ford, one by Professor E. E. Fernow on "The Forestry Problems of the United States," and a description of trained "Boxing Horses," by H. J. Holmes. A. V. reveals a plot against Edward VII. and Great Britain, and Mr. Halliwell Sutcliffe continues the adventures of the king and queen of Smugglers. Home Notes contains a fashion article, one on drawn work, and the

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In the matter of wearing apparel for Ladies, Misses, and Children will, in most cases, be found by our patrons to be "just right." Our purchases are made with good judgment by buyers of large experience and our standard is the highest. Our measure of success lies in your appreciation of the things we have to offer you, and if you investigate we know that when you want the best you'll come to the Big Reliable Store.

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WHAT WE SELL WE GUARANTEE.

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usual puzzle columns. Both articles and illustrations are very interesting this month. The illustrations of the Nast papers have an unusual interest as being reproductions of hitherto unpublished sketches.—New York.

Harpers Bazar for April covers a wide field and presents the numerous subjects of which it treats in a very artistic manner, as always. Among the topics to which space is given are these: "The Fashion Outlook for 1904," "Fashions for Brides," "Spring Hats," "Shirt-Waists for 1904," "Evening Gowns," "For Boys and Girls," "Coats and Wraps," "For Older Women," "Gowns for Street Wear," and "Wash Gowns." Then there are stories and poems, special articles, "In Jeopardy," "Editorial Comment," etc. The frontispiece is "Street Gown of Voile," drawn by Ethel Rose, Paris.—Franklin Square, New York.

The Red Book for April has the following illustrated short stories: "The Summerault Pony," Kenneth Brown; "The White Father of Unava," Clement M. Keys; "The End of the Story," Louise C. Howe; "A Very Superior Man," Anne Warner; "Cupid and Miss Lavinia," Lavin C. Cheney; "The Crimson Violet," Edward Boltwood; "In the Shadow of Daniel Webster," Hugh Pen-dexter; and "The Revenge of Sir Roland," Edgar Franklin. There are some other stories, and a number of photographic art studies, by New York artists.—158 State St., Chicago, Ill.

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